beldw the road surface resulting in cable breakdown frequently; and

(b) if so_ whether Government propose to improve the situation and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir. The cab!e$_s$ are laid as per standards generally. In fact important cable$_s$ ^^{e} (aid S ft. below road surface to avoid damages. However, in certain i-es due to constructional difficulties cables are laid at shallow depth with sufficient precautions.

Breakdowns do sometimes occur due I I damage to cables bv digging operations by other public utilities despite these prevail tions.

i It is proposed to construct underground ducts to protect the cables from external damages on long-term basis for primary and junction cables. Jelly filled cables are being used in distribution network to prevent breakdowns due to in-fcress of water.

Use of telephone cables

2656. SHRIMATT 1LA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that jelly filled and Stalpath telephone cables of 81 Ibs| 61 lbs are being used instead of 40 lbs which are of high grade and international standard:

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

fc} whether the system i$_s$ proposed to be changed; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department is using jellyfilled cable$_s$ of 6 1/2 lbs and 10 lbs gauge. This is as per international standards. The. $_s$talpath cables were imported and used as one time requirement i'u the Department. 40 Ib$_b$ cables arc rarely used and these are foi special requirements only.

(c) and fd) There is no proposal to change the system of using jellyfilled cable* in the cables network a$_s$ this is as P^{61}" international standards and practK

Task tor public sector enterprises

2657. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of INDUS-IKY be pleased to state:

a) whether any year-wise task was formulated for the public sector enterprises under the control of the Ministry of Industry;

ib) if so, the details of the tasks assigned and their achievements since the of formulation uptodate; and

(C) the reasons in the cases of shortfall in achieving the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): fa) and (b) The year-wise tasks for the public sector enterprises are formulated by the public sector enterprises in consultation with the Ministry. These tasks are also indicated in terms of financial and production targets at the beginning of each year and the performance of the public enterprises is thereafter being reviewed periodicaly in terms of the assigned targets.

The performance details of each public sector enterprise are analysed and furnished in the Public Enterprises Survey brought out every year. This is also tabled jn Parliament annually.

(c) There are various reasons which contribute to the shortfall in achieving targets. The following are some of the reasons for shortfall in achieving targets:

(i) Power shortage,

(ii) Recessionary conditions in some industries,